

Remark

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application as amended.

Claims 1, 4, 5, 9, 11, 12, 17, 20, 24, 27, 30, 33 and 36 have been amended. No claims have been cancelled. Therefore, claims 1-38 are present for examination.

35 U.S.C. §102 Rejection

White

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-3, 7, 9-12, 33, 35, 36 and 38 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by White et al. U. S. Patent No. 4,602,365 ("White"). The present invention as recited in, for example, Claim 1, recites at least one significant difference from White.

Claim 1 recites that "the first token includes an all received up-to (aru) field to provide for ordering of the first plurality of messages by informing each of the members of the first group of the last message that other members of the first group have received." White does not suggest an aru field or providing for ordering of messages. White at Column 1, lines 60-64 discloses a method for "simultaneously operating a plurality of independent token passing data channels on a ring . . . for communicating along at least one of the channels." The communicating along the channels does not provide for any ordering of the data communicated. Applicant is unable to find any suggestion in White of providing for ordering of a plurality of messages.

For at least the reason stated above, Claim 1 is believed to be allowable over the references. Claims 9, 12, 17, 20, 24, 27, 33, and 36 contain one or more of the limitations discussed above, among others, and are therefore believed to be allowable. The remaining claims are dependent upon one of the above claims and are believed to be

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allowable therefore as well as for the express limitations set forth in each claim,
respectively.

35 U.S.C. §103 Rejection*White in view of Sakamura*

The Examiner has rejected claims 6, 15-18, 27, 28 and 34 under 35 U.S.C. §103

(a) as being unpatentable over White, in view of Sakamura et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,274,637. Sakamura was not cited for and does not show the features absent from White as discussed above. Accordingly, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

35 U.S.C. §103 Rejection*White in view of Minyard*

The Examiner has rejected claims 8, 13, 14 and 20-23 under 35 U.S.C. §103 (a) as being unpatentable over White, in view of Minyard, U.S. Patent No. 6,553,508 ("Minyard"). Minyard was not cited for and does not show the features absent from White as discussed above. Accordingly, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY**Conclusion**

Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections have been overcome by the amendment and remark, and that the claims as amended are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the rejections be withdrawn and the claims as amended be allowed.

Invitation for a Telephone Interview

The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case..

Request for an Extension of Time

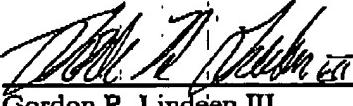
Applicant respectfully petitions for an extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) should one be necessary. Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 to cover the necessary fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a) for such an extension.

Charge our Deposit Account.

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

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